



## Party in the Park, Birth-5

**Wed, June 1, 10 am, Bronson Park**

Calling all childcare providers, teachers and parents! You and your preschool children will enjoy this very special story hour featuring:

- A book for each child
- Costumed characters
- Lots of wonderful stories
- Healthy snacks and juice

This is a FREE event! Bring a blanket to sit on. Portable toilets will be available at the park. Weather cancellations may apply.

## Market Saturdays @ The Square

The Kalamazoo Farmers' Market is one of the things that make living in Kalamazoo great! Here at the Library, we would like to enhance your visit to the Washington Square Neighborhood with a few programs during Market Saturdays:

**Sat, June 11, 11 am, WSQ:**

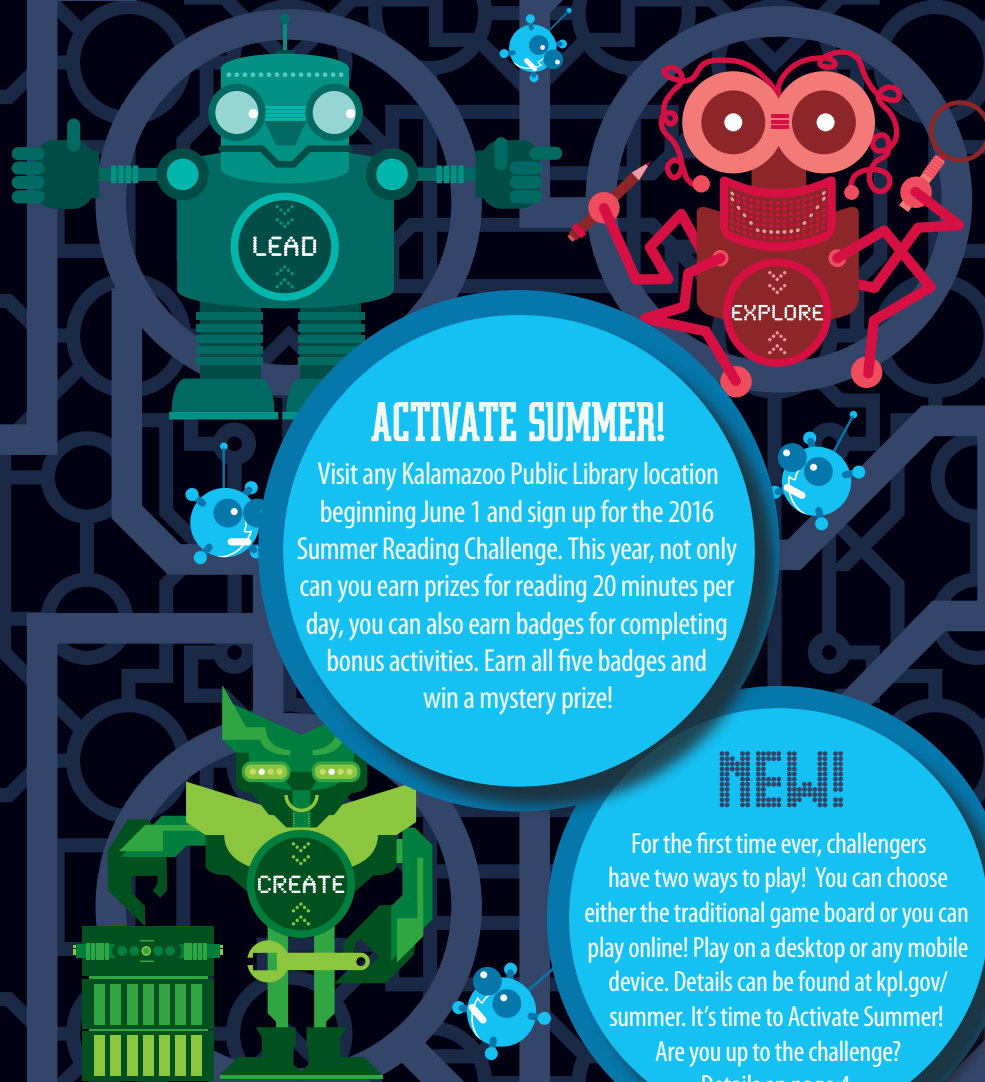
Come enjoy the gorgeous harmonies of the award-winning Maple Street 6th Grade Choir!

**Sat, June 25, 10 am, WSQ:**

Learn how to take that fresh produce you bought at the Farmers' Market and turn it into yummy summer salads with Kama Mitchell.

**Sat, July 9, 10 am, WSQ:**

Stay cool this summer with refreshing and healthy smoothies provided by The Fresh Food Fairy via her amazing bike blender! Recipes and tips for fruit and veggie smoothies will be shared.



### ACTIVATE SUMMER!

Visit any Kalamazoo Public Library location beginning June 1 and sign up for the 2016 Summer Reading Challenge. This year, not only can you earn prizes for reading 20 minutes per day, you can also earn badges for completing bonus activities. Earn all five badges and win a mystery prize!

### NEW!

For the first time ever, challengers have two ways to play! You can choose either the traditional game board or you can play online! Play on a desktop or any mobile device. Details can be found at [kpl.gov/summer](http://kpl.gov/summer). It's time to Activate Summer!

Are you up to the challenge?  
Details on page 4.

ACTIVATE

2016 SUMMER READING CHALLENGE  
KALAMAZOO PUBLIC LIBRARY

## IN THIS ISSUE

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# events Adult

JUNE • JULY • AUGUST • 2016

## Batter Up!

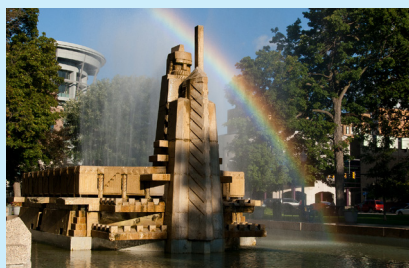
Kalamazoo Public Library is a proud sponsor of the Kalamazoo Growlers 2016 season. KPL will have a table at multiple events throughout the summer. Our popular Family Place Zone is back this year, so even your littlest baseball fans can have a ball while you watch the game! On select dates, KPL staff will also be offering storytime during the game. Times will be announced at the beginning of the game. For more info, visit [kpl.gov/growlers](http://kpl.gov/growlers).



## HISTORY & GENEALOGY

### Kalamazoo Trivia Time!

Kalamazoo Public Library once stored these in the Central Library's basement during winter months. What was it? **Hint:**



Answer will be in the next issue of LINK! Photo credit: Bill Dolak

**CEN (Central Library)** ..... 553-7800  
**EAS (Eastwood)**..... 553-7810  
**OSH (Oshtemo)** ..... 553-7980  
**POW (Alma Powell)** ..... 553-7960  
**WSQ (Washington Square)** .. 553-7970

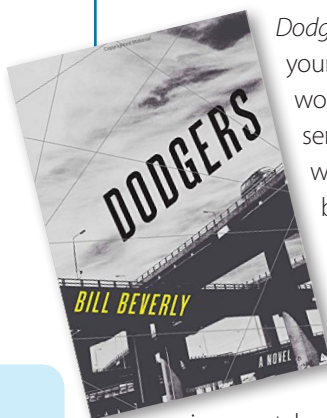
## BOOKS

### Author Visit from Bill Beverly

Tues, June 14, 7 pm, CEN

Join us as we celebrate the success of Kalamazoo native and author, Bill Beverly, as he reads from his just-released, critically acclaimed novel, *Dodgers*.

In this stunning debut, author Bill Beverly delivers a story unlike anything else in fiction: a dark, haunting, literary crime novel that is also a powerful coming-of-age narrative.



*Dodgers* is the story of a young man named East who works for an LA drug gang, sent by his uncle along with some other teenage boys—including East's hotheaded younger brother—to kill a witness connected to a major case, who is hiding out in Wisconsin. The journey takes East out of a city he's never left and into an America that is entirely alien to him, and over the course of his journey the book brings in elements from a diverse array of genres, ranging from crime fiction to road narrative to coming-of-age novel. Written in stark and unforgettable prose and featuring an array of surprising and memorable characters rendered with empathy and wit, *Dodgers* heralds the arrival of a major new voice in American fiction.

*"A dazzling crime novel that's equal parts coming-of-age tale à la Salinger's The Catcher in the Rye and travelogue à la Kerouac... Readers won't soon forget East and his bloody journey of self-discovery and, ultimately, salvation."*

—Publishers Weekly, starred review

*"Bill Beverly's Dodgers will be one of the most talked-about debut novels of the year."*

—BookPage

**R** Registration required. Call location listed or register online at [kpl.gov](http://kpl.gov) starting 30 days before event.

## R Urban Fiction Book Discussion

Tuesdays, June 28 and August 23, 6 pm, POW

Join the Urban Fiction discussion group as we share our insights and reviews on works by various authors. Books being discussed this summer include *Fly on the Wall* by Trista Russell and *Money Can't Keep Me Warm* by Andrea. Books can be picked up at the Powell Branch. Please register.

## R Powell Book Discussion Group

Tues, July 26, 6 pm, POW

We will discuss *Instinct: The Power to Unleash Your Inborn Drive* by T.D. Jakes. Copies of the book can be picked up at the Alma Powell Branch. Please register.

## MUSIC

### Music in the Park

Sundays, Flesher Field

June 12, Who Hit John? with special guest Megan Dooley, 5:30 pm

July 17, Madcat Midnight Blues Journey featuring Peter 'Madcat' Ruth, 5:30 pm

August 14, The Tony Fields Trio, 5:30 pm

Enjoy family-friendly outdoor concerts this summer at the recently renovated Flesher Field! Join us for hands-on art activities at 4:30pm, followed by music at 5:30pm. Presented by Oshtemo Friends of the Parks and cosponsored by local organizations and businesses, including KPL.

## LEGAL

### Ask a Lawyer

For appointment information call the Law Library, 553-7920

Free legal clinics for persons of low-to-moderate income with Bar Association lawyers. Get help with most areas of civil law, including landlord-tenant problems, divorce, and family law.

For a free 20-minute appointment, call: 553-7920. You may make only one appointment per four months. Clinics do not include follow-up. Further consultation must be negotiated with an individual attorney.

## & MORE

### **R** Zen Journaling

Mon, June 6, 6 pm, OSH

Mon, June 27, 6 pm, EAS

Wed, July 20, 6 pm, WSQ

Tues, August 30, 6 pm, POW

Zen Journaling is an easy-to-learn, relaxing, and fun way to create beautiful images by drawing structured patterns. In this highly interactive program, participants will be provided with pen and paper to create a project. Instructor Carrie Dunn will introduce the meditative practice as well as four to six zen patterns. Please register.

### Market Saturdays @ The Square

The Kalamazoo Farmers' Market is one of the things that make living in Kalamazoo great! Here at the Library, we would like to enhance your visit to the Washington Square neighborhood with a few programs during Market Saturdays:

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Come enjoy the gorgeous harmonies of the award-winning Maple Street 6th Grade Choir!

**Sat, June 25, 10 am, WSQ:**

Learn how to take that fresh produce you bought at the Farmers' Market and turn it into yummy summer salads with Kama Mitchell.

**Sat, July 9, 10 am, WSQ:**

Stay cool this summer with refreshing and healthy smoothies provided by The Fresh Food Fairy via her amazing bike blender! Recipes and tips for fruit and veggie smoothies will be shared.



### Tech Bar

**Mondays, June 13, July 11,  
August 8, 2 pm, OSH**

Need help understanding your tablet, smartphone or laptop? Having trouble trying to use social media or office programs? Interested in KPL's eBooks, eAudiobooks, streaming video, digital magazines, or downloadable music services? Talk to our knowledgeable staff about these tech-related issues and more.



### Movies Under the Stars

**Thursdays, Oshtemo Township Park**

**June 16, *The Long, Long Trailer*, 9 pm**

**July 21, *Big Hero 6*, 8:30 pm**

**August 18, *Jurassic World*, 8 pm**

Join us for our fifth year of outdoor movies at Oshtemo Township Park! Bring a blanket or lawn chair, bug spray, and a flash light. Cosponsored by Oshtemo Friends of the Parks and Alamo Drafthouse Cinema. Weather permitting.



### 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio

**Olympic Spotlight: Rugby**

**Mon, July 25, 6 pm, EAS**

Andrew Gyorkos, chairperson of Kalamazoo Rugby Football Club, will discuss the history of rugby world-wide and in the U.S., the different levels and styles of rugby, how rugby is played, and the Kalamazoo rugby community.

**Olympic Spotlight: Rowing**

**Tues, July 26, 6:30 pm, OSH**

Did *The Boys in the Boat* pique your interest in the sport of rowing? Or maybe you always wondered how to use that weird piece of equipment gathering dust in a dark corner at your local gym? Learn about the history and craft of rowing, one of the most efficient full-body exercises.



### Brazil: A Bite of Food and a Bit of History

**Mon, August 8, 6 pm, EAS**

Enjoy some delicious gluten-free Brazilian cheese bread, learn a little bit about Brazilian history, and savor some Moqueca De Camarao (shrimp with coconut sauce), a must-try dish from Brazilian cuisine with Silvana Quadros Russell, founder of Brazilian Oven.

### Capoeira

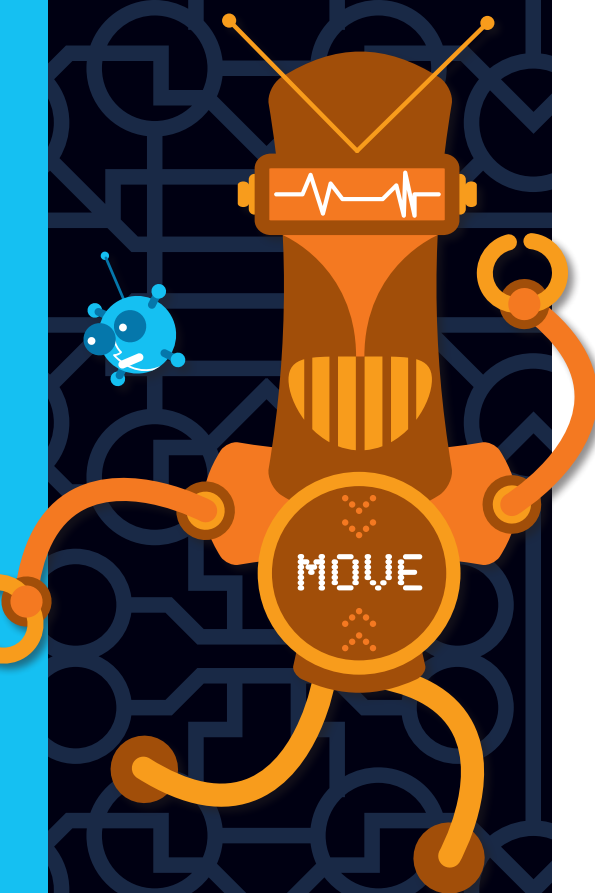
**Tues, August 9, 6 pm, POW**

Please join us for an energetic Capoeira performance from the West Michigan Capoeira team. Capoeira is an Afro-Brazilian martial art. It is a combination of dance moves and acrobatics. It's fun, educational, and a rich cultural experience for the whole family!



# ACTIVATE

## 2016 SUMMER READING CHALLENGE



### ACTIVATE SUMMER!

JUNE 1 – AUGUST 31, 2016

Are you up to the challenge? Sign up at any KPL location or online at [kpl.beanstack.org](http://kpl.beanstack.org) beginning June 1.

**Kick-Off Party:** Join us on Saturday, June 4, 12-4 pm at Central Library for fun activities, prizes and special guests! Details can be found at [kpl.gov/summer](http://kpl.gov/summer).

### ARE YOU UP TO THE CHALLENGE?

Can you read or listen to books for at least 20 minutes a day, every day? If you accept the challenge, simply record each day that you read for 20 minutes or more on your challenge card or log your reading online at [kpl.beanstack.org](http://kpl.beanstack.org). When you have completed 15 days (they do not need to be consecutive days), bring your challenge card to the library for a reward or let the library staff know you earned a reward online.

### PLAY ONLINE TOO!

For the first year ever, KPL is offering an online reading challenge, where you can log your daily reading, view book lists and get book recommendations, and earn badges for completing learning activities. There are 5 learning tracks in which you can earn a digital badge and a sticker for your challenge card: Lead, Create, Read, Explore, Move. Earn all 5 badges and get a special prize! Sign up June 1 at [kpl.beanstack.org](http://kpl.beanstack.org).

### READING REWARDS

There are 92 possible reading days from Wednesday, June 1 through the challenge's end on Wednesday, August 31. You may complete four, 15-day reading segments within those 92 days, so you can earn up to four rewards!

### CLAIMING YOUR REWARD

When it's time to claim a reward you can either

- bring your challenge card to any KPL location to report your progress
- let staff know you earned a reward online

Staff will record your progress and give you a prize.



REWARDS ☆	15 DAYS	30 DAYS	45 DAYS	60 DAYS
<b>PRESCHOOL</b> (Birth-K)	Book	Book	Book	SRC t-shirt
<b>KID</b> (Grades* 1-4)	Book	Book	Book	SRC t-shirt
<b>TWEEN &amp; TEEN</b> (Grades 5-12)	Book	Book	Book	Keychain wallet
<b>ADULT</b>	Raffle chance to win a Friends Bookstore gift certificate Drawing: July 1	Raffle chance to win a Friends Bookstore gift certificate Drawing: Aug 1	Raffle chance to win a Friends Bookstore gift certificate Drawing: Aug 28	KPL mug



☆ All prizes available while supplies last

\* Choose the grade the child will enter in fall of 2016

### DEADLINE

Please report all game play at least 15 minutes before the library closes. All rewards must be redeemed no later than **Wednesday, August 31**. No exceptions.

For more information about how to sign up for Summer Reading Challenge, please visit [kpl.gov/summer](http://kpl.gov/summer)

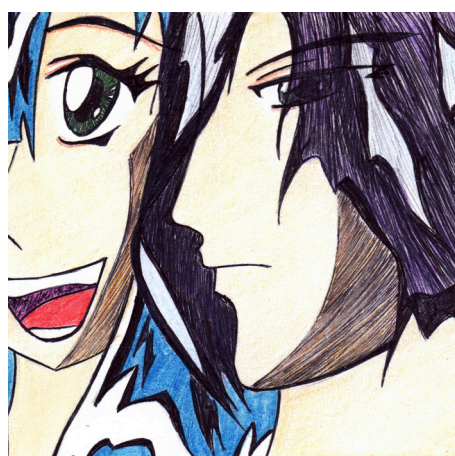


# Tween & Teen events

JUNE • JULY • AUGUST • 2016

(more events on pages 6-7)

## GEEK OUT!



### J-Pop Club, Grades 7-12

**Mondays, June 20, July 18, August 15, 4 pm, CEN**

Enjoy Japanese anime, manga, Pocky, and food. Drop in anytime during the hour!

### Pokemon Party, Grades 5-12

**Tues, July 12, 5:30 pm, CEN**

**Mon, August 15, 5:30 pm, OSH**

Join us in celebrating 20 years of Pokemon! Challenge other trainers in battle with cards, DS games, and Pokken Tournament. Play "Who's That Pokemon" and win prizes. Exchange friend codes, trade Pokemon, and get hype for Sun & Moon!

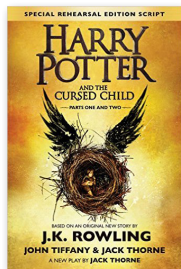
- R** Registration required. Call location listed or register online at [kpl.gov](http://kpl.gov) starting 30 days before event.
- T** Space limited; ticket required. Pick up free ticket at host location starting one week before event; one ticket per person. Call location with any questions.

## WORDS

### Harry Potter Party,

All Ages

**Saturday, July 30, 2 pm, CEN**



Celebrate Harry's birthday (July 31) and the release of *The Cursed Child*. Let's party with trivia, a reading from *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*, Hogwarts

themed snacks, games, and crafts!

### Speak It Forward Presents: Spoken Word Summer Showcase, Tweens, Teens, and Adults

**Wed, August 3, 6:30 pm, CEN**

Speak It Forward is a non-profit organization based in Kalamazoo, whose mission is dedicated to empowering youth through spoken word poetry. Join us as the mentors of Speak It Forward showcase their poetry as a kick-off event that will lead to a bi-weekly writing workshop hosted here at KPL.



### Speak It Forward Presents: Leading Through Poetry, Grades 5-12

**Tues, August 9, 23, September 13, 27, 4:30 pm, CEN Teen Area**

Join the mentors of Speak It Forward Inc. as they facilitate a bi-monthly writing workshop, empowering youth at KPL. We'll craft new poems and develop our works together through the group. These workshops will lead up to an April 2017 Art Hop event where we will showcase their poetry. No poetry expertise necessary! All supplies (and snacks!) provided.

## Learn Code with KPL!

Programming, scripting, coding and learning how to solve problems are some of the most essential skills of the digital age. Let's bring these skills to your fingertips by writing code using KPL's Chromebooks! Together we will work to demystify coding with fun, youth-centric, innovative, and quick lessons that bring the power to code to all of us. Join us for a 3-day camp program where you'll get lessons from local tech experts and complete a group code project. All materials provided.

### Code Camp, Grades 1-4

**Thursdays, July 7, 14, 21, 28, 10 am, CEN**

**Wednesday-Friday, July 13-15, 2 pm, OSH**

**Thursdays, August 4, 11, 18, 25, 10 am, CEN**

### Code Camp, Grades 5-12

**Thursdays, July 7, 14, 21, 28, 11:30 am, CEN**

**Wednesday-Friday, July 13-15, 3:30 pm, OSH**

**Thursdays, August 4, 11, 18, 25, 11:30 am, CEN**

## Tech Tuesdays

**Tuesdays, July 12, 19, 26,**

**August 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 3:30 pm, CEN**

Experiment and tinker with cutting edge tech tools. Explore a different technology each week! Topics posted at [www.kpl.gov/teen](http://www.kpl.gov/teen).



# Tween & Teen events

JUNE • JULY • AUGUST • 2016

## GAMING

### Minecraft Launch, Grades 5-12

Thurs, June 16, 2 pm, EAS

Wed, June 22, 2 pm, POW

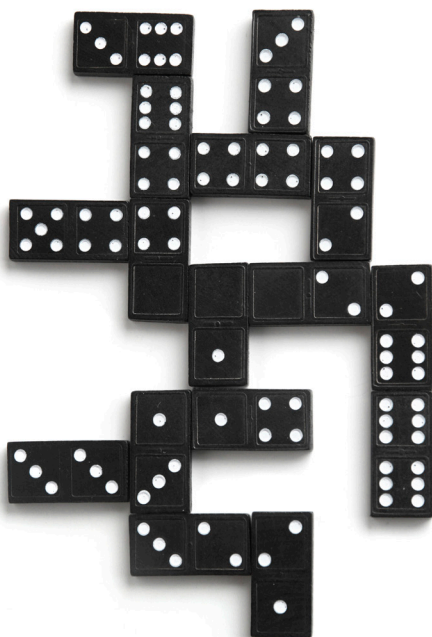
Thurs, August 18, 2 pm, WSQ

Join the block-bashing, creeper-killing, world-building game at KPL. Play on our custom server and see what you can build!

### Game Central, Grades 5-12

Wednesdays, July 13, 27, August 10, 24, 1 pm, CEN Teen Area

Get your Game on! From the newest favorites to old classics, it's an afternoon of strategy, skill and fun. Choose from one of our many board, card, or video games, or bring one of your own! Sign up to play in a tournament each week with prizes for top competitors!



## MAKER

### Jewelry Making with Meg Tang, Grades 5-12

Tues, June 28, 2 pm, POW

Local jewelry making expert Meg Tang will help teens craft a one-of-a-kind piece using found items, wire, and more! All materials provided.

### Zen Journaling, Grades 5-12

Thurs, July 7, 2 pm, EAS

Tues, August 23, 6:30 pm, OSH

Explore the non-intimidating, creative possibilities of Zen Journaling. Create beautiful patterns that can be used as images, backgrounds for other works of art, patterned surfaces for three-dimensional work of art or a creative and stress-releasing outlet. Instructor Carrie Dunn will artfully guide you through the endless possibilities of patterns to create compositions and design. All materials are provided.

### Maker Mondays, Grades 5-12

Mondays, July 11, 18, 25, August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 1 pm, CEN Teen Area

Tinker, make, try, create and explore at the library. Each week will feature different ideas and materials. Focus on the process (not the product) and learn that all of us are makers. Projects listed at [www.kpl.gov/teen](http://www.kpl.gov/teen).

### ® Cooking Camp with Chef K, Grades 5-12

Thurs, July 14, 2 pm, EAS

Wed, August 10, 2 pm, POW

Join local author and chef, Keneisha Morgan-Darden, and learn that cooking is an art. Participants will prepare, identify, cook, challenge, and consume with Chef K! All materials provided. Registration required.

### Tie Dye, Grades 5-12

Mon, August 1, 2 pm, OSH

Tues, August 2, 2 pm, WSQ

Wed, August 3, 2 pm, EAS

Thurs, August 4, 2 pm, POW

From shirts to socks. Choose a project and create! We supply the materials, you supply the creativity. Outdoor activity, weather permitting.

## MOVE!

### Flying Aces, All Ages

Mon, June 20, 1 pm, OSH

Athletic, informational, and humorous fun with Frisbees! The Flying Aces will delight all with Frisbee history, technique, and an audience participation contest. Outdoor event, weather permitting.

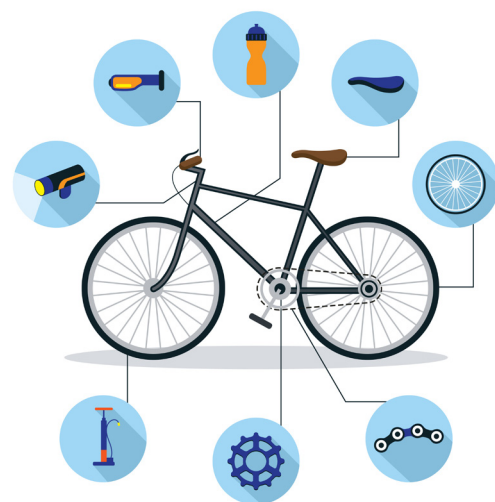
### Open Roads Bike Fixapalooza, Grades 5-12

Tuesdays, June 21, 28, 4-6 pm, WSQ

Tuesdays, July 12, 19, 4-6 pm, POW

Tuesdays, July 26, August 2, 4-6 pm, EAS

Drop in and get parts and help to get your bike in good shape this summer. Get there early to get the most out of the experience!



### Growlers Skills Clinics, Ages 8 and up

Thurs, June 23, 1 pm, WSQ

Tues, July 26, 1 pm, OSH

Join the players from the Kalamazoo Growlers for a baseball skills clinic. Batter up! All skill levels welcome. Outdoor event!

CEN (Central Library) ..... 553-7800

EAS (Eastwood) ..... 553-7810

OSH (Oshtemo) ..... 553-7980

POW (Alma Powell) ..... 553-7960

WSQ (Washington Square) ... 553-7970





## & MORE

### **Nashon Holloway Concert, All Ages**

**Tues, June 7, 6:30 pm, POW**

With her mix of rock, jazz, and soul and passion for music as communication and healing, Nashon Holloway's music will get you moving and humming along. She's an award-winning independent artist and WMU graduate, a passionate singer-songwriter and talented guitarist whose credits include performances on The Oprah Winfrey Show, and Jazz at Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, Taste of Dubai among others. We are so thrilled to welcome her back to Kalamazoo Public Library, in concert at the Powell Branch.

### **#TAB, Grades 6-12**

**Mondays, June 13, July 11, August 8, 4 pm, CEN, Teen Area**

Attention Teens! Are you looking for ways to give back to your library and your community while having fun at the same time? Join the new Teen Advisory Board (#TAB) and volunteer for library programs, help with events, contribute to library social media, and more! #TAB members also get special perks, rewards, and opportunities! Want to know more? Join #TAB today!

### **Chemical Kim Science Show, Grades 5-12**

**Thurs, June 30, 2pm, OSH**

Enjoy a science show with WZZM's and KVCC's Chemical Kim! Station activities and hands-on science fun! Space limited. Ticket required.

### **Improv, Grades 5-12**

**Mondays, July 25, 2pm, OSH & August 22, 6:30 pm, CEN**

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to do improvisational theatre? Join Scott Fuce of the Improvement Group as he shows you some of the basics of improv: "yes...and", building an environment, and finding the who, what, where of the scene. This workshop builds teamwork and creative thinking and is a blast. Join the fun!

### **Theater Camp with Face Off Theater Company, Grades 6-12**

**Wednesdays, August 3, 10, 17, 24, 11 am - 2 pm, CEN**

Theatre workshops for tweens and teens interested in an introduction to scriptwriting, casting, acting, and performing. Each week, we'll play theatre games, develop an original play, have a break for a pizza lunch, and then perform that week's masterpiece for kids at KPL. Come to one week at a time or come to all 4 sessions. Face Off Theater Company is the new face of Black Arts and Cultural Center Theatre. Operated by a collection of stellar WMU Theatre alumna, the FOTC is beginning their 2nd season in 2016.

### **College and Career Fair, Grades 5-12**

**Tues, August 16, 5:30 pm, POW**

Explore your options! Network! Here's a chance to investigate after-high school options in a fun open house style event. Raffle prizes, smoothies and snacks, and other fun included!



### **College Application Prep, Grades 9-12**

**Tues, August 23, 6:30 pm, CEN**

Learn about the college application process from experienced guide, Karen Williams. She will share tips for getting organized and presenting yourself well in applications and essays. This presentation will be geared especially to current high school students and their parents. Whether you are a senior in the thick of applications or a freshman, sophomore, or junior thinking ahead, bring your questions!

### **Disc Golf, Grades 5-12**

**Wed, June 29, 2 pm, OSH**

**Mon, July 18, 2 pm, OSH**

Learn to play disc golf with professional player and course designer Kirk Haggadone of LunaDisc. No experience necessary! Outdoor event, weather permitting.

### **Zumba, Grades 7-12**

**Thursdays, July 7, 14, 21, 28, 4:30 pm, CEN**

**Tues, July 26, 2 pm, POW**

**Mon, August 8, 2 pm, EAS**

Get your Zumba on! Zumba features dance, strength training and kickboxing. Taught by instructors from Amy Baker's ZuCrew. Bring a friend!

### **Martial Arts**

**Tues, July 19, POW**

**Ages 7-10 at 2 pm, Ages 11-18 at 3 pm**

Learn self-defense techniques with Charles Parker, 3rd degree Judo instructor. Please register for only one age-appropriate session, space is limited.

### **Zoo City Hoop Dance, Grades 5-12**

**Wed, July 20, 2 pm, POW**

**Thurs, July 21, 2 pm, EAS**

Hoop Dance is a great way to discover what one is capable of. During this workshop teens will learn a variety of fun movements and tricks with hula hoops and enhance body awareness and confidence. Hoops will be provided for use during the workshop by Hoop Dance instructor, Shani Blueford.

# events Kids

JUNE • JULY • AUGUST • 2016

(more kids events on pages 10-11)

## BOOK NOOK

### Bookworms, Ages 6-11

Tuesdays, June 14, July 12, August 9, 4:30 pm, OSH

Thursdays, June 23, July 28, August 25, 4:30 pm, CEN

A book club for kids and their grown ups. In June, we'll read *BFG* by Roald Dahl. In July, we'll read *Raymie Nightingale* by Kate DiCamillo. In August, we'll read *Fortunately, the Milk* by Neil Gaiman.



### Father's Day Read-In, All ages

Sat, June 18, 2-4 pm, CEN

Celebrate fathers who read to their children. Join in this 2-hour read-in event by sharing and listening to stories. Kids can create a special Father's Day card to give.

### Meet the Author: Kate DiCamillo, Family

Mon, July 11, 6:30 pm, CEN

Bestselling author Kate DiCamillo returns to Kalamazoo with her new book, *Raymie Nightingale*. Come meet the award winning author and former National Ambassador for Young People's Literature.

### Meet the Author: Wong Herbert Yee, Ages 4-8

Thurs, August 4, 2 pm, OSH

Spend an afternoon with the beloved author and illustrator of *Eek! There's a Mouse in the House*, *Summer Days and Nights*, and *Detective Small in the Amazing Banana Caper*, among other timeless favorites.

## MUSIC & THEATRE

### Susan Harrison and Her Palamazoo Puppets, Family

Wed, June 29, 11 am, CEN

Families enjoy this fun-filled, interactive concert with music, puppets and lots of smiles.

### The Leopard's Drum, Family

Wed, July 6, 2 pm, POW

Sat, July 9, 2 pm, CEN

Experience this Asante tale from West Africa through song, music and dance. Performed by *Rooted Studio* performers.

### R Fancy Pants Theater, Ages 3-6

Saturdays, July 9 & 16, 10 am, CEN

August 13 & 20, 10 am, OSH

We will explore the very basic element of theater/pretend play. Using a combination of songs, stories, and games, we will stir-up those budding imaginations, tune our social skills, and most importantly – play! For preschoolers and a caregiver. Registration required.

### R Fancy Pants Theater, Ages 6-11

Saturdays, July 9 & July 16, 11 am, CEN

August 13 & 20, 11 am, OSH

We'll focus on play, using songs, stories, and games, while adding elements of script writing and producing. Each session will end with a short performance based on a book. Registration required.

### T Zak Morgan in concert, Family

Mon, July 11, 2 pm, EAS

A family fun-filled event with Zak Morgan. He delivers songs and poems with wit and charm that will inspire and tickle your funny bone. FREE ticket required.

### T BenJammin and Analisa in concert, Family

Sat, July 16, 2 pm, CEN

Get your jam on with BenJammin and Analisa. Move! Engage! Lead! Explore! Play and sing along with educational music. Space is limited. FREE ticket required.

### T Kevin S. Devine in Concert, Family

Tues, July 19, 2 pm, OSH

Enjoy award-winning children's entertainer, songwriter and recording artist Kevin Devine at this rollicking, participatory concert full of sing-alongs & dancing. Space is limited. FREE ticket required.

### R Small Sounds, Ages 5-8

Wed, July 20, 11 am, CEN

Music, movement and imaginative fun for preschoolers and their families. Paul Bauer gives kids a chance to explore music through hands-on, interactive, and energetic music experiences! Registration required.

### T Storyteller Chris Fascione, Family

Tues, August 16, 11 am, CEN

Tues, August 16, 2 pm, OSH

Nationally known story performer Chris Fascione brings classic literature to life with storytelling, mime, juggling, and comedy. Don't miss this crazy fun program! Space is limited. FREE ticket required.



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EAS (Eastwood) .....553-7810

OSH (Oshtemo) .....553-7980

POW (Alma Powell) .....553-7960

WSQ (Washington Square) ...553-7970



## AMAZING ANIMALS



### **R** Reading with Tucker, Family

Thursdays, June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30,  
4-5:30 pm, CEN

July 7, 14, 21, 28, 4-5:30 pm, WSQ

August 4, 11, 18, 25, 4-5:30 pm, OSH

Enjoy a “pawsitive” reading experience. Read to Tucker, the very friendly Golden Retriever. Registration required. Call location to register.

### **T** Go WILD! With Nature-on-the-Go, Ages 6-11

Mon, June 20, 10:30 am, CEN

Mon, June 20, 2 pm, EAS

Wed, August 3, 2 pm, POW

Thurs, August 4, 10:30 am, WSQ

Join naturalist educator, Laurel Zoet at this fun filled program including games, ideas for exploring and LIVE animal observations to teach children about some of the wildlife that lives here in Michigan and how to safely observe these animals while having fun outdoors. Space is limited. FREE ticket required.

### **T** Ferret Fun!, Family

Tues, June 28, 2 pm, OSH

Tues, June 28, 4 pm, POW

Meet Dee Gage and her furry ferret friends! Learn about ferrets and how to keep them as pets. A fun and informative program for the whole family! Space is limited. FREE ticket required.

### **T** Wildlife Safari, Family

Tues, July 5, 2 pm, EAS

A wildlife safari at the library! Get close to live, wild animals at this exciting program! Space is limited. FREE ticket required.

### **T** Critchlow Alligators, Family

Tues, July 12, 2 pm, OSH

Tues, July 12, 4 pm, WSQ

Meet real crocodilians, lizards, and amphibians from Critchlow Alligator Sanctuary. All animals secured for public contact and handling. Space is limited. FREE ticket required.

### **4-H** Bunny Hop, Family

Mon, July 18, 2 pm, EAS

Small animal care featuring live bunnies, their care and upkeep.

## ARTS & CRAFTS

### **R** Australian Didgeridoo, Ages 6-11

Sat, June 25, 2 pm, CEN

Thurs, July 14, 2 pm, WSQ

Learn about Australian Aboriginal history, art, culture, and music then create your own Didgeridoo instrument. Registration required.

### **R** Summer Crafternoons, Ages 6-11

Mondays, June 27, July 25, August 22,  
2 pm, CEN

Thurs, August 18, 1 pm, EAS

Get creative and make stuff at Summer Crafternoons. Projects include origami, jewelry making, magnets, water color painting, build a monster truck, and more. Projects posted on kpl.gov. Space is limited, registration required.

## MOVE!

### **Zumba for Kids, Ages 4-9**

Thurs, June 23, 2 pm, EAS

Join in this high-energy dance session with the sounds of reggaeton, merengue, and salsa music and rhythms. Caregivers are welcome to join in.

### **Creative Dance with Joy, Ages 8-11**

Tues, July 19, 2 pm, WSQ

Thurs, August 11, 10:30 am, EAS

Get busy and learn creative dance moves including jazz, modern, hip-hop and ballet from dancer Joy Elizabeth Morris. Wear comfortable clothing and shoes.

### **Martial Arts with Charles Parker, Ages 7-11**

Tues, July 19, 2 pm, POW

Martial arts introduction and demonstrations by a Black Belt Master, Charles Parker. Wear comfortable clothing and shoes.

### **Capoeira for All, Family**

Tues, August 9, 6 pm, POW

Please join us for an energetic capoeira performance from the West Michigan Capoeira team. Capoeira is an Afro-Brazilian martial-art. It is a combination of dance moves and acrobatics. It's fun, educational and a rich cultural experience for the whole family!

### **G.Y.M. - Get Yourself Moving, Ages 6-11**

Tues, August 16, 2 pm, POW

Stay active this summer with hula hoops, creative animal movements, jumping rope, and other outside playground favorites presented by Gail Gersonde. Wear comfortable clothing and shoes.

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**M** Maker Program

**R** Registration required. Call location listed or register online starting 30 days before event.

**T** Space limited; ticket required. Pick up free ticket at host location starting one week before event; one ticket per person. Call location with any questions.

## STEM

### LEGO at the Library, Family

Saturdays, June 4, July 2, August 6,  
10:30 am, OSH

Wednesdays, June 8, July 13,  
August 10, 6:30 pm, WSQ

Wednesdays, June 15, 4pm, July 13  
and August 17, 2 pm, POW

Saturdays, June 18, July 23, August  
20, 10:30 am, CEN

Thurs, June 9, 4 pm, EAS

Mon, July 25, 2 pm, EAS

Thurs, August 25, 2 pm, EAS

Build, create and imagine with other  
LEGO fans. Bricks provided, from  
Duplo to expert builder.

### **R** Little Scientists, Ages 3-6

Mondays, June 6, July 11, August 1,  
10:30 am, CEN

Stories and science for preschoolers  
and a caregiver. Registration required.  
Topics posted on kpl.gov.

### Fly Away Butterfly, All ages

Mon, June 13, 4:30 pm, EAS

Fri, June 17, 2 pm, POW

Learn about the life of butterflies,  
listen to a story and make a fun  
craft to take home!



### **R** Let's Explore: Ocean Odyssey Presented by Air Zoo, Ages 6-11

Thurs, June 30, 10:30 am, EAS

Mon, August 15, 12 pm, CEN

Explore marine aquatic ecosystems  
and experience the biodiversity and  
adaptations of unique ocean animals  
at this hands-on program. Registration  
required.

### **R** Let's Explore: Astronauts Presented by Air Zoo, Ages 5-8

Mon, July 18, 10:30 am, CEN

Learn all about astronauts and the special  
tools and equipment they use aboard the  
International Space Station. Design and  
create your very own space suit at this  
exciting program presented by Air Zoo.  
Registration required.

### **R** Let's Explore: Ocean Kids Presented by Air Zoo, Ages 3-6

Mon, August 15, 10:30 am, CEN

Learn about the wonderful ocean with  
music, puppets, dramatic play and hands-  
on activities developed to inspire young  
oceanographers. Registration required.

## STAY & PLAY

### Toddler Talk, Ages 1-3

Wednesdays, 10:15 am, OSH

June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

July 6, 13, 20, 27

August 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Toddlers play while adults share the joys  
and challenges of parenting 1-3 year-olds  
with a parent educator/facilitator.

### Baby Talk, Up to Age 1 Year

Wednesdays, 1:30 pm, OSH

June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

July 6, 20, 27

August 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Talk about the care of babies up to one  
year of age with other parents. Carolyn  
Call, RN, facilitator. No meeting July 13.

## STORYTIMES

Adult caregiver must accompany  
babies and toddlers. Siblings may  
attend as guests.

### Family Storytime, Family

Stories, activities and special guests  
designed for birth-5 and their families.

Thursdays, 10:30 am, OSH

June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

July 7, 14, 21, 28

August 4, 11, 18, 25

Fridays, 10:30 am, CEN

June 3, 10, 17, 24

July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

August 5, 12, 19, 26

### Preschool Storytime, Ages 3-5

Tuesdays, June 7, 14, 21, 28, 10:30 am,  
CEN

Stories, songs, and activities for 3-5  
year-olds and their caregivers.

### Musical Storytime, Family

Mondays, June 13, July 11, August 8,  
6:30 pm, OSH

Mondays, June 27, July 25, August 22,  
6:30 pm, CEN

Favorite songs, stories and special guests.

### Storytime with Mr. Steve, Family

Wednesdays, June 22, July 20,  
August 24, 6:30 pm, WSQ

Join Mr. Steve for stories, songs, rhymes,  
and lots of fun. If the weather is nice, bring  
a blanket to sit on and we will go outside.





### **Tales on the Trails, All Ages**

**Fridays, June 24, July 22, 10:30 am, POW**

Take a walk along the Kalamazoo River Valley Trail and listen to stories along the way.

### **R An Animal Tale, Ages 5-11**

**Mon, June 27, 11 am, CEN**

**Mon, June 27, 2 pm, WSQ**

Step into the story of Alex, an active kid with a very active imagination. Through story and hands-on activities, go on a backyard nature odyssey with the Kalamazoo Nature Center.

### **Toddler Storytime, Ages 2-3**

**Tuesdays, July 5, 12, 19, 26, 10:30 am, CEN**

Songs, movement and stories.

### **R Fresh Food Fairy, Ages 3-7**

**Thurs, July 7, 10:30 am, EAS**

Meet Hether Frayer, the Fresh Food Fairy, at a special storytime celebrating healthy foods. Enjoy a smoothie made with her bike blender! Registration required.

### **Baby Lapsit, Birth – Pre-walkers**

**Tuesdays, August 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 9:30 am, CEN**

Songs, bounces, and rhymes for babies from birth to walking with their caregivers. Siblings welcome.

### **Baby Steps, Walkers – 24 Months**

**Tuesdays, August 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 10:30 am, CEN**

Rhymes, songs and books for little ones from walking to 24 months and their caregivers. Siblings welcome.

## **& MORE**

### **Party in the Park, Birth to 5**

**Wed, June 1, 10 am, Bronson Park**

Calling all child care providers, teachers, and parents! You and your preschool children will enjoy this very special story hour featuring:

- A book for each child
- Healthy snacks and juice
- Costumed characters
- Lots of wonderful stories

This is a FREE event. Please R.S.V.P. to 553-7885 by May 27th. Bring a blanket to sit on. Portable toilets will be available at the park. Weather cancellations may apply.

### **First Saturday @KPL, Family**

**June 4, August 6, 2-3:30 pm, CEN**

Take your family to the library the first Saturday of each month! Get your library card or pick out some books to check out. Enjoy stories, activities, special guests, and door prizes. Something different each month!

First Saturday is a partnership program for KPL and Kalamazoo Public Schools. Each monthly event is co-hosted with an organization serving children and families in Kalamazoo.

In June, Activate Summer! with the Summer Reading Game Kick-OFF

In August, participate in a special Summer Olympics 2016 Celebration

*\*First Saturday will not be offered on Saturday, July 2.*

### **Brain Buster Fridays,**

**Ages 6-11**

**Fridays, June 17 to August 26, CEN, POW**

Challenge your brain and your friends with puzzles, board games, math mysteries and riddles. A fun way to sharpen your problem solving and critical thinking skills this summer.

### **R Cinema Shorts, Family**

**Wednesdays, June 22, July 20, August 24, 2 pm, CEN**

Grab a snack and enjoy a classic film. In June, *Lost and Found*. In July, *Happiness is a Warm Blanket, Charlie Brown*. In August, *Sesame Street presents Abby in Wonderland*. Space is limited, registration required.

### **R Cooking with Keneisha,**

**Ages 7-11**

**Wed, July 27, 2 pm, POW**

Don't just read cookbooks, cook! Keneisha Morgan Darden introduces delicious and healthy snacks you can make at home.

### **KPL's 5th Annual Lego Building Contest, All Ages**

**Saturdays, August 6, 10 am-5 pm, OSH and August 13, 10 am-5 pm, CEN**

Enter your original Lego creations in the KPL Lego Building Contest. Two chances to participate this summer! Be creative, have fun, and win great prizes! The whole family can enter the contest! Entries accepted during open hours the day before. Creations will be on display for public voting on Saturday. Winners announced Monday after each event. Official contest details and rules are available at [www.kpl.gov/lego](http://www.kpl.gov/lego).







## Director's Note

### It's almost summer and we are ready for the 96th annual Summer Reading Challenge!



This year's theme for all ages is Activate Summer 2016! As always, we will have a game challenge and programs for all ages. New this year is an online version of the challenge in addition to the traditional game card to record daily reading.

Online participants can earn badges for age-appropriate activities based on the themes of move, create, explore, lead, and read.

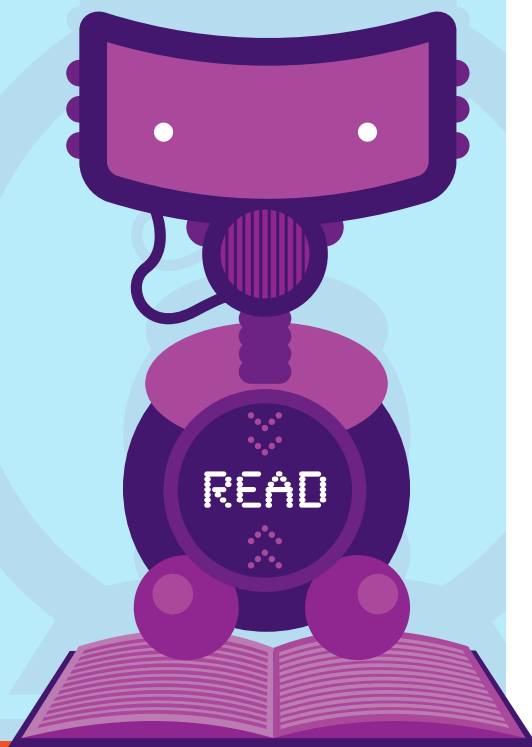
Our summer programming will provide our Reading Challengers ample opportunity to earn those badges! In addition to the popular Maker Mondays, Flying Aces and Code Camp, we added Brain Busters, theater opportunities for teens, programs from the Air Zoo, and much more! Details for these and many other programs can be found in this issue of Link.

All this is fun with a serious purpose: keep kids reading all summer. Research shows that kids, especially the very youngest readers, lose an average of 25% of their reading skills over the summer as well as significant losses in math and other areas. As a result, teachers spend three to six weeks at the beginning of the school year, reviewing the previous year's material.

I'm particularly proud that our staff is committed to a full summer of reading games, challenges, and activities for our community's children: June 1 to August 31. Our commitment as adults is to model reading and sign up for the Summer Reading Challenge along with our children. This is an important step in becoming a truly literate community.

Are you up to the challenge?

*Ann Rohrbaugh*  
Ann Rohrbaugh



## Friends of Kalamazoo Public Library

### New Location for the Summer Bag-of-Books Sale – June 4

Our annual June Jubilee Bag-of-Books Sale will be relocated this summer. This year you won't find the book sale under the portico in front of the library. But we won't have moved too far. The sale will take place in the parking lot behind the library, on the corner of Rose and Lovell. This new location gives us space to spread out a bit. Less crowded quarters should make the shopping even more fun.

The June Jubilee, official kickoff to summer in Kalamazoo, takes place during the first weekend in June. The Friends Bag-of-Books Sale takes place that weekend on Saturday, June 4th.

The selection and prices can't be beat. You can fill a grocery-size bag full of books for only \$2 or pay 10¢ per book. Please feel free to bring your own sturdy reusable bag. Books are sorted by category. You will find: fiction & mystery, romance, science fiction, large print, assorted nonfiction, children's books, audio books, movies, music, and more.

### Here's what you need to know:

- **DATE:** Saturday, June 4
- **TIME:** 9 am to 3:30 pm
- **LOCATION:** Library parking lot – corner of Rose and Lovell

### 2016 Library Board

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